

### **NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE**

1. Applicant's amendment filed on 7/26/2011 is acknowledged and has been entered. Claims 12-26 are pending. Claims 12, 15 and 17 have been amended. Claims 21-26 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. All of the amendments and arguments have been thoroughly reviewed and considered. Applicant's amendment and arguments necessitates withdrawal of the prior art rejections of the previous Office actions. Accordingly, the rejections are withdrawn. An Examiner's amendment and reasons for allowance appears below.

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Thomas Basso on \_\_\_\_\_.

The application has been amended as follows:

(a) The non-elected claims 21-26 have been canceled.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicant's arguments and amendments necessitate withdrawal of the prior art rejection under 35 USC 103(a). Applicant's arguments were found persuasive that the cited prior did not teach all of the limitations of the claims. Patentability of the instant invention is based on the combination of method steps recited in the claims 12-20. Accordingly, the instant invention is deemed novel. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be

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submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CYNTHIA WILDER whose telephone number is (571)272-0791. The examiner can normally be reached on a flexible schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on (571) 272-0782. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/CBW/

/Gary Benzion/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1637